UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re:

Application of:

Ronald STEVENS, et al.

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

Herewith

For:

IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELEATING TO THE MANUFACTURE OF MOULDED

PRODUCTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX: PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

May 18, 2001

Sir:

Please amend the above referenced patent application prior to examination as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 18 and 30.

Please amend the pending <u>Article 34</u> claims as follows:

(Amended) A part according to claim 2, in which the shaped member consisting of stabilised zirconia includes a surface having at least one protrusion arranged to form, in use, a corresponding recess or recesses in an article moulded using the part.

8. (Amended) A part according to claim 2, in which the shaped member consisting of stabilised zirconia includes a surface having at least one recessed region arranged to form, in use, a corresponding embossed region or regions on an article moulded using the part.